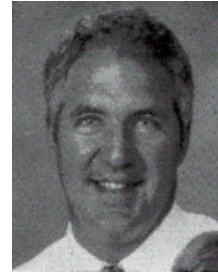


SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

SHIMKUS, John M. (Republican)
Representative, 20th District, Illinois
Elected 1996 to the 105th Congress
Reelected to the succeeding Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: Collinsville, Illinois - 21 February 1958

Home: Collinsville, Illinois

Marital status: Married (Karen) - 2 children

Religion: Lutheran

Military: U.S.Army, 1980-86, Capt; Army Reserve, 1986-present (promoted to Lt col, 15May01)

Education: West Point, B.S., 1980

Profession: Public official

Political: Madison County Treasurer, 1990-1996. Defeated Jay C. Hoffman (D) with 50% of the

vote for the seat of Rep Richard J. Durbin (D) who successfully ran for the open Senate seat of

retiring Sen Paul Simon (D). Reelected in 2000 with 63% of the vote and in 2002 with 55%.

Rep Shimkus called for controlling government spending and cutting taxes to balance the budget while serving as County Treasurer and has said he brings these same priorities to Congress. Wants to focus on consolidating government operations to control spending and to reduce regulations that he feels stifle economic growth.

In the 106th Congress, introduced H.R. 2247, the Small Business Superfund Fairness Act. Congratulated the Lithuanian people on their 82nd anniversary of Lithuanian Independence and the strides they have made in the 10 years since Lithuanians faced Soviet tanks to restore freedom. Noted that a 10-year defense spending plan has been approved which will ensure that appropriate equipment will be procured and critical troop reforms will be made as well as ensuring Lithuanian interoperability with NATO forces. Speaking in support of a resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Korean War and service by members of the Armed Forces in that war, stated that his father was emblematic of all our nation's heroes who served in Korea and then went home; said he was supporting this resolution to "thank my dad and all those dads and granddads in our country who laid down their lives for the cause of freedom...."

Referring to the effort to get \$300M in the budget to keep the F-15 line open, remarked "Going through this process next time would not be an enjoyable thing to try to do. We have to get the Air Force fully behind the F-15. Without their desire to fully support this plane, it makes it very difficult." Acknowledged there would be those who want to "shut down the F-15 line and get back to the plan for the F-22." Believed the nuclear weapons security issue is "something we ought to micromanage for a while."

In the 107th Congress, when he was being promoted to Lt col in the US Army Reserve, remarked "Having served both in active duty and the reserves, I know the sacrifices our military personnel make, particularly as our force structure transitions to a heavier reliance on reservists and National Guard troops." Argued that US is pulling too far ahead, technologically, than even the most militarily-advanced NATO country. Said those nations need to spend more on defense.

Additional: Former high school teacher. Ran unsuccessfully against Rep Durbin in 1992.

AF Bases: Capital MAP (ANG)

COMMITTEES

ENERGY AND COMMERCE -- Subcs on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection; Energy and Air Quality; Environment and Hazardous Materials (Vicechm); Telecommunications and The Internet